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competition either of employer or employee, individually or in combination. As to the interpretation of the statute, the soundness of the position taken may well be doubted; but in regard to the common law the conclusion reached can hardly be questioned.

The book is valuable for the complete collection of authorities. The reasoning is cogent, and the analysis able. It is written in a terse, vigorous style, which makes amends for minor failings in point of form, and is worthy of the attention both of lawyers and of economists. J. G. P.

COMMON-LAW PLEADING. By R. Ross Perry, of the Bar of the District of Columbia. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co. 1897. pp. xxvi, 494.

In the modest preface to this book the author disclaims any pretence to originality, and states his endeavor to have been to give in condensed form the best that has been said on his subject "by many authors in many books." The result is a complete and satisfactory work on the science of common-law pleading. Mr. Perry, however, has done more than he is willing to claim credit for. His comprehensive grasp and understanding of the theory and practice of pleading has contributed at least equally with his selections from other works to the successful result. The method and arrangement of the book are excellent. The historical development of the law is treated with the breath that a proper understanding of the subject requires. The reader is taken from the most primitive remedies involving mere self-help, to complicated actions before courts of law; the functions and jurisdiction of the English courts are explained, and the several forms of actions developed. The steps in an action from the original writ to judgment, are set out fully and clearly. In all this there is much original writing. Mr. Perry has taken bodily, with little modification, Chitty's statement of the principles of the common law with respect to actions, the essential portions of Stephen's commentaries on the rules of pleading, and Dicey's rules governing the selection of the parties to an action; he has also made free use of the third book of Blackstone's Commentaries in the chapter on the English courts. But whenever the matter treated of has been difficult or obscure, Mr. Perry's explanations have simplified it; and when mere general rules have been given, he has enlightened them with specific illustrations. An example of this is the abstract of the pleadings in a supposed case, given on page 227. The advantages to be derived from the study of special pleading are stated by the author in the introduction more forcibly than has perhaps elsewhere been done. The following passage, it would seem, must commend itself to the thoughtful reader: "The study of special pleading is not only essential to a correct understanding of the historical development of the law; it is most admirable and essential as an intellectual training. No man can be a strong reasoner who does not possess natural or acquired logic. No man can be a strong lawyer who has not, in addition to this logic, a clear knowledge of the logic of the law; and special pleading is the logic of the law." R. L. R.

HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF EQUITY PLEADING. By Benjamin J. Shipman. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Co. 1897. pp. xii, 632.

The subject with which Mr. Shipman deals in this latest volume in the *Hornbook Series* is one that is peculiarly susceptible of useful treatment

in the compendious form which characterizes this series of text-books. Although the main principles in equity pleading are not very abstruse or complicated, yet their application to the facts of particular cases has produced a vast number of subordinate rules of procedure, which are laid down by the courts for the most part only incidentally in their opinions on the merits of all sorts of equity cases, and are therefore not easily ascertained without the aid of some work in which they are collected and systematically arranged. In the construction of this manual, which is designed as a work of reference for practitioners as well as a text-book for students, the author has followed the same plan as in his *Handbook of Common-Law Pleading*. He deals with the whole subject of chancery procedure in this country in a thorough and orderly manner, taking up in succession the topics of Parties, Proceedings in an Equitable Suit, the form of Bills in Equity, with the particular rules applicable to the different varieties of bills, the Demurrer, the Plea, the Answer, and the Replication. The similarities and contrasts between the systems of pleading at common law and in equity are pointed out, and the application of the rules of Equity Procedure to Code Pleadings is frequently noticed. The historical treatment of the subject, necessarily brief, is remarkably good, and should be useful to students. To the practitioner, the systematic arrangement and full citation of authorities will be points of value.

R. G.

A TREATISE ON FRAUDULENT CONVEYANCES AND CREDITORS' BILLS.
By Frederick S. Wait, of the New York Bar. Third Edition. New
York: Baker, Voorhis, & Co. 1897. pp. lxvii, 834.

The purpose and tone of Mr. Wait's work are best indicated in his own vigorous words: "Since the general abolition of imprisonment for contract debts, dishonest people have grown bolder and more reckless, and the power of creditors to enforce payment of just obligations has been correspondingly diminished. . . . The cunning devices and intricate schemes resorted to by debtors to elude the vigilance of creditors would, if no moral turpitude was involved, challenge admiration. . . . It will be our purpose to elucidate the principles of law affecting conveyances made by debtors in fraud of creditors, both in this country and in England, to collate the authorities, and to point out, somewhat at length, the practical methods by which such collusive trusts can be successfully exposed and unravelled, the property regained for the creditors, and the prevalent modern tendency of debtors to hinder, delay, and defraud their creditors by colorable transfers and secret trusts, correspondingly depressed. Bills filed to reach equitable assets, not subject to execution, will necessarily receive incidental consideration." In connection with the principal subjects here mentioned, the author treats fully many practically important questions concerning, for instance, the parties necessary, the forms of procedure, the different sorts of relief, intention, consideration, indicia of fraud, evidence, "spendthrift trusts," preferences, and jurisdictional questions. Mr. Wait's point of view is the right one, his work is thorough, and his style forcible. This new edition contains much valuable new matter, besides additional citations largely increasing its usefulness.

R. G.